

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APR 24 2007

Docket No.: 013743.0104PTUS

Application No. 10/511,464
Amendment dated April 24, 2007
Reply to Office Action of January 24, 2007AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 4 of the application with the following paragraph.

Each of the above examples shows a different and novel aspect of the composite materials according to the present invention. The scope of this invention, however, is not limited to these examples but extends generally to composites that are constructed from the SiCN-based non-oxide matrix, and the broad range of oxide ceramics described above. Preferably, the oxide ceramic contains atoms selected from groups III and IV of the periodic system of the elements or transition metals or lanthanoid metals and oxygen. The present invention advances the art by dispersing crystalline oxide ceramics at nanometer scale in noncrystalline, non-oxide ceramics to impart various functional properties to the composite. The invention is further remarkable in that the primary precursor may not have any temperature to make it viscous for drawing fiber. The functional properties exhibited by the composite far exceed those predictable, with any reasonable degree of certainty, by a simple rule of mixtures for composites. These composites, according to the invention, exhibit better mechanical properties than their monolithic counterparts. Further, the invention's methods of dispersing functional oxide ceramics in an amorphous non-oxide matrix are readily carried out.